Cess dues from garment manufacturers

4126. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a textile cess of over Rs. 10 crores is due to Government from 1300 garment manufacturers in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to realise its dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Textiles Committee has so far identified 1278 garment manufacturers in the organised sector other than exporters liable to pay Textiles Committee's cess and has served them with notices for recovery of cess dues.

4127. (*Transferred to the 18th August* 1992.)

Revamping of Jute Corporation of India

4128. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the market intervention operations, includig procurement at harvest season by Jute Corporation of India have been in jeopardy for the past two three years;

(b) if yes, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that jute producing farmers have been experiencing hardships on that account and consequently the acreage under jute and production have come down steeply;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what measures have been initiated to rectify the situation and streamline the functioning of jute corporation and increase the production of jute in the long run?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) JCI has, together with its cooptrative aggents, procured 5.08 lakh bales of raw jute & mesta during the 1989-90 jute season 8.52 lakh bales of raw jute & mesta during the 1990-91 jute season & 6.16 lakh bales of raw jute & mesta during the 1991-92 jute season to protect the interests of jute growing farmers.

(c) and (d) The area under cultivation and production of raw jute & mesta for the past three ytars has been estimated by the Ministry of Agriculture as:

	Area under cultivation (In '000 hectares	Production (In lakh bales)
1989-90 . .	907	82.89
1990-91 . .	1023	90.00
1991-92 . .	1095	90.00

However, the area under cultivation of raw jut & mesta is estimated to have declined during the 1992-93 jute seasod due to lack of adequate rainfall during sowing season and the comparatively lower level of prices obtained by farmers for their produce during the previous season.

(e) JCI is committed to protect the interests of jute growing farmers by conducting price support operations without any quantitative limits in the eventuality of fall in prices of raw jute below support level. Government are implementing a Special Jute Development Programme to provide Jute growing farmers in selected districts with essential inputs viz. certified seeds essential nutrients, pesticides, improved farm equipment and retting tanks in addition to carrying out demons-